

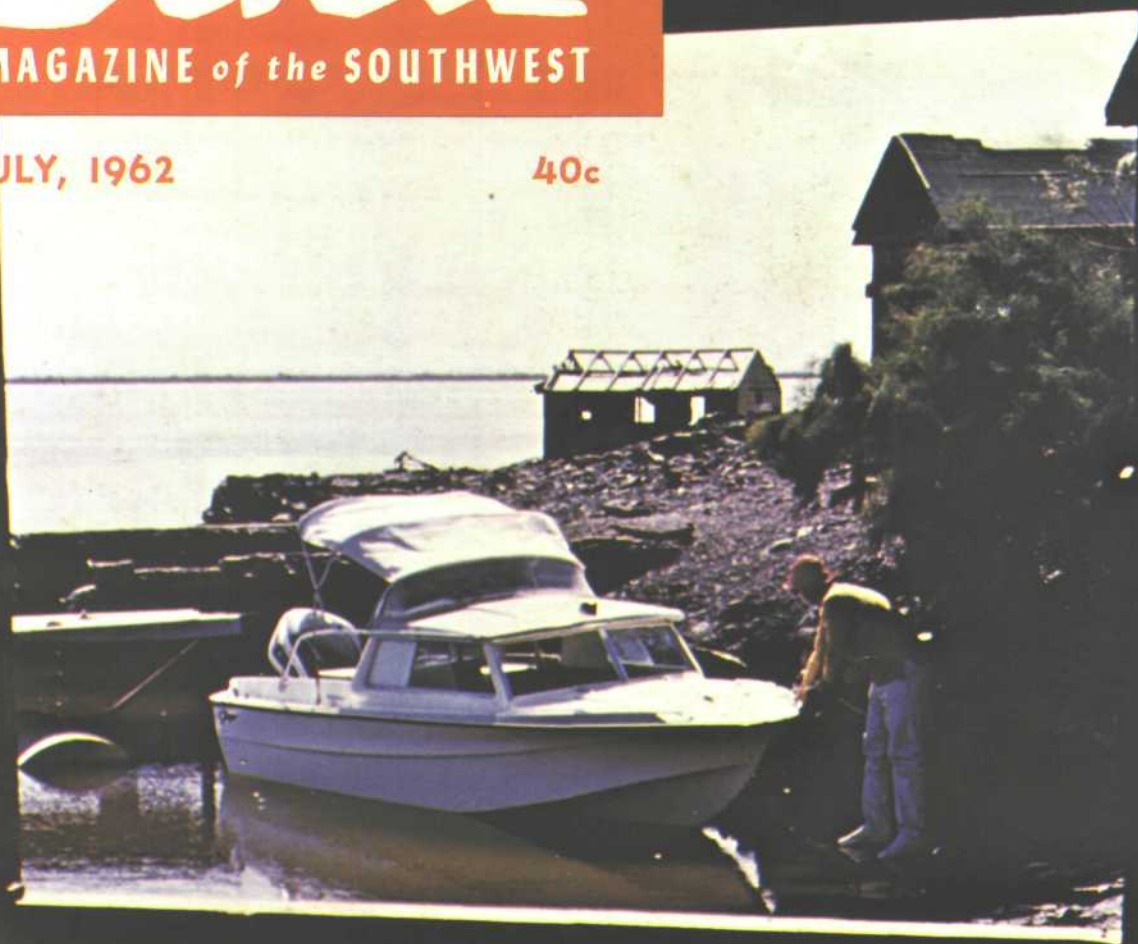
RM
off

Desert

MAGAZINE of the SOUTHWEST

JULY, 1962

40c



Ghost Island on Salton Sea

Joseph Wood Krutch: "Man's Mark on the Desert"

Mining Camps' Glorious Fourth

Frank Lloyd Wright's Design for the Desert



desert detours

by Oren Arnold

"Come ye yourselves apart into a desert place, and rest a while." Mark 6:31

Truly our desert is a many-splendored place. At times it challenges man's ability to recognize its bounty. One of those times is now. Truth is, our desert heat is more endurable than the stifling humidity most of the nation suffers. We sons of the sun have learned to refrigerate, or estivate. We have also learned to appreciate; summer colds are rare, congested lungs clear up, arthritis fades, spirits soar and hope returns. Colors are intensified, landscapes glow, stars acquire new brilliance, life in general revs down so that we have time to enjoy it. Thank you, Lord.

Two of the things I love most were born in July—me, and the United States. But when I straight-faced as much to my teenage daughter, she shot right back—"Mother, let's have a big party on July 4, hey?" My day's the 20th.

Only reason Independence Hall wasn't in Phoenix was because the transcontinental railway hadn't been built; the Liberty Bell was too heavy to haul out here in a wagon.

I worry some about that Liberty Bell anyway. Here lately the bureaucrats and treasury raiders have been putting too many new cracks in it.

When I get knotted up like that, worrying about national affairs, I usually throw a canteen of water and a little snack of grub into the car and head for the wild free hills. Up back of Four Peaks last Spring I asked a 70-year-old prospector if he knew what to do about inflation. "Ain't heered of it," said he. See what I mean?

"Failure," declared Doc Clarence Salsbury, who has never experienced it, "comes to him who follows the line of least persistence."

Don't bother making a flowery speech this July 4 unless you are also willing to shoulder a rifle, serve on a draft board, or at least donate a pint of blood. Patriotism, American style, is not synonymous with oratory. It is limited to one magnificent word—*Service*.

"Civilian service," Governor George Hunt of Arizona once told me, "is no less important than military. Hang out a flag, yes. But don't sit down then, thinking you have done your duty. Freedom is a sacred trust. And it is not free."

If America ever starts getting as much government as it's paying for, we're sunk.

Seems the mayor of Nipton on the Mojave Desert was trying to hire a preacher for their new church. "Rev'rend," said he, "are you by any chance a Baptist?"

"No sir, I'm not," the good man answered. "Why?"

"Well, I was just going to explain that we have to haul all our water about 30 miles."

What you are about to read is a true story; nothing has been changed except the wording and the facts:

It's not really very hot on the desert in summer. The impression of warmth is largely in the imagination. The dryness keeps the air from being oppressive. In fact you won't notice the heat at all if you just work hard in the bright cheerful sunshine.

All right, all right, so it's hot. What'd you expect in July, sleet?

Back in January I gave you a recipe for a palliative guaranteed to alleviate the heat. Naturally you weren't interested then, but you will be now: Mix ½ cup of lemon juice with 1½ cups of sugar and chill. Into this slowly pour one quart of whole milk, stirring rapidly. Freeze at once in a hand-turn freezer. Have a small baseball bat handy to keep neighbors away from this matchless Sun Country Sherbet, or quadruple the amount frozen.

As I survey the world from my favorite Point of Rocks, it appears that shiftless people very rarely manage to get into high gear.

I feel a little sorry for a certain college professor in Arizona. The kindly gent, poking around on the desert, found what seemed sure to be the burial place of a gargantuan prehistoric monster. He and his students were diligently sweating to dig out the bones, when Tyson Carter, who owned the land, happened along. Ty watched them a while, chewing his toothpick and grinning, then said, "Gents, some of those rib bones are 12 feet long, all right, and the tail is at least 70 feet. But they were hauled in here a few years ago by a show man who wanted to make money exhibiting them. He lost his shirt, and I let him bury them out here. Them's just whale bones."

Statistics reveal that 108.9 percent of the desert dwellers who say they'd rather stick it out in the hill heat in July and August instead of going to the cool California beaches, are lying. Truth is, we just ain't got the money.

Be assured, good friends, that life will knock you to your knees. But that's the ideal position in which to pray.

This may well be the desert citizens' basic philosophy of life: *Freedom from want, if interpreted as freedom from necessity to struggle, would be a calamity if ever realized.*

Not meaning to be wise-cracky about it, but hoping to help weld the unique strength of our close-to-God desert-country citizens, I leave you with this thought in this, the month of our nation's birth:

If we aren't careful when we go to the polls, government of the feeble, by the feeble and for the feeble will not perish from the earth.

1776. Time for a history lesson with Southwest overtones, purpose of which is to show that the "Spirit of '76" was not confined to the Atlantic seaboard. Here, month by month, are the major occurrences in the Southwest (SW) and East Coast (EC) in 1776. **January:** EC—Colonial attack on Quebec fails; Washington strengthens Boston Army with siege guns. SW — Father Garces at Yuma attempts to establish a lasting peace among the Indian tribes whose representa-



Three months after Independence Day, Father Escalante entered Utah Valley. Painting by Keith Eddington.

DESERT

MAGAZINE OF THE SOUTHWEST • 25TH YEAR

Volume 25

Number 7

CONTENTS FOR JULY, 1962

This Month's Cover—

Mullet Island was a popular resort, but then in the late 1940s the waters of Salton Sea rose and flooded the connecting mainland road, and the island's facilities were abandoned to vandals and the elements. Thus, uniquely, another desert ghost town came into being. (See story on page 7.) Photo by Greenfield Lawrel.

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tives he meets there. **February:** EC—Small Colonial fleet sails to Bahamas; Washington continues siege of Boston. SW—After 14 days of travel, Garces reaches the Mojaves (near Needles). **March:** EC—Colonial fleet captures munitions at Nassau; British evacuate Boston. SW—Garces makes his way westward, discovering and traversing the whole of the Mojave River, and arrives at the mission of San Gabriel (Los Angeles) on March 24. **April:** EC — Washington reaches New York with 1800 men. SW—Garces reaches a point on Kern River north of present-day Bakersfield. **May:** EC—Washington confers with Continental Congress in Philadelphia on the question of independence. SW—Garces returns to the Mojave country, confirms the peace among the five tribes whose representatives assemble there. But on May 31, in order to prevent the killing of the Hualapai delegates by the Mojaves, he accompanies them to their lands (Kingman, Ariz.). **June:** EC—Howe, heavily reinforced from Great Britain, virtually isolates New England. SW—Garces proceeds northward to the Havasupai, then, seeking a route to Santa Fe, travels along the southern rim of Grand Canyon. **July:** EC—Colonies declare their independence. SW—The Hopis refuse to admit Garces to their pueblos, and he returns to the Mojaves. **August:** EC—Washington forced to evacuate Brooklyn. SW — Garces continues southward to the Yumas. Escalante and Dominguez leave Santa Fe seeking a route to Monterey. **September:** EC—Howe drives the Americans out of Manhattan. SW—Garces visits the Cocomaricopas and Pimas, censuring the now uneasy peace, then returns to his mission of San Xaxier del Bac near Tucson; Escalante and Dominguez cross the Green

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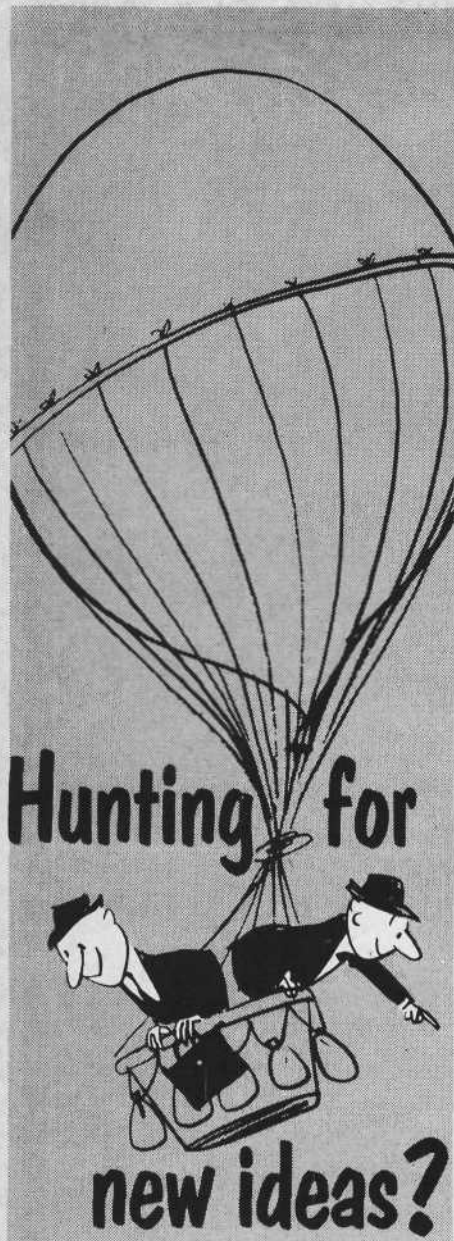


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Publisher

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Editor

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THE DESERT IN JULY (continued from preceding page)

River. **October:** EC—Washington retreats from White Plains. SW—Escalante and Dominguez reach Utah Lake (near Provo) and turn south; plagued by cold and scanty provisions, they turn back toward Santa Fe. **November:** EC—Howe captures Fort Washington, British push down through New Jersey threatening Philadelphia. SW—Escalante and Dominguez ford the Colorado River, visit the inhospitable Hopi, and return, on Nov. 24, to Escalante's old mission at Zuni. **December:** EC—Washington, still retreating southward with his ragged army, suddenly turns upon Trenton on Christmas night and captures nearly 1000 Hessians. SW—Escalante and Dominguez return to Santa Fe. Failure and retreat marked the days of 1776, but the dauntless spirit of the year is its bequest to the centuries.

* * *

Oppose New Road. To those who wonder where the white man's "progress" will eventually end, the public utterances of Hopi tribal leaders comes as sweet music. The state wants to build a new highway across Hopiland, providing paved access to U.S. 66. But, Andrew Heremequaftewa, spokesman for a group opposing the road, said the pavement would "seriously damage many farm areas, shrines and other religious grounds" held sacred by the three villages on the Second Mesa. So much for progress.

* * *

River Conquered. A nine-man team became the first in history to navigate boats up the Colorado River. The expedition, led by Otis Marston, used special boats designed in New Zealand which carry no exposed propeller or rudder. The jet propulsion unit is housed within the hull. Water is sucked in through an opening in the hull; spewed out behind. The river conquerors covered the 350 miles from Lake Mead through Grand Canyon to Lee's Ferry.

* * *

Big Government. "Visitors traveling to the Pacific Northwest will find many reasons for lingering beyond their visit to the Seattle World Fair in a special informational pamphlet being readied by the Department of the Interior," reports a government news release sent free through the mails to the country's other publishers. "Continued sale (20c) of the booklet is planned for post-Fair years," the news item discloses, "and similar booklets on other sections of the nation are planned." Fine. We are selfish in hoping that the government decides to concentrate on the publishing of paper money and postage stamps before it is the Desert Southwest's turn for a booklet detailing "points of interest such as national parks and monuments, dams and recreation areas, etc." After all, we would like to be able to continue paying taxes.

* * *

July Calendar. Two Mojave Desert communities "take to the air" this month. Soaring contests ("Stellarbration") are scheduled at Victorville on July 4, and on July 24-August 2, neighboring Adelanto will be host to the National Soaring Championships.

Fourth of July festivities are planned at these Arizona towns: Eager, Parker (Drag Races), Sedona (Carnival), Show Low, Ajo, Winslow, Chandler, Globe, Safford, Bisbee (Hard Rock Drilling Contest), and Holbrook (Hashknife Stampede). See page 33 for a listing of Nevada July Fourth events.

Also in July: 1st: Nevada Gem and Mineral Show, Reno. Through the 8th: San Diego County Fair at Del Mar. 2-4: All Indian Pow Wow, Flagstaff. 7: Powder Puff Derby, Fallon, Nevada. 20-21: Annual White Mountain Square Dance Festival, Show Low, Arizona. 24: Pioneer Day, Safford, Arizona. 26-28: Black Diamond Stampede, Price, Utah.

Indian ceremonials in July: 14: Feast Day and Corn Dance, Cochiti Pueblo. 25: Corn dance (two-day), Taos; Santiago's Day Dances, Santa Ana and Laguna pueblos; Rooster Pull, Acoma; Corn Dance, Cochiti. 26: Feast Day, Santa Ana Pueblo; Corn Dance, Taos and Acoma.

The rockhounds head for Del Mar for the big California Federation show ("Gold Rush of Gems") on July 20-22.

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LETTERS FROM OUR READERS

Who Owns the Outdoors? . . .

To the Editor: Erle Stanley Gardner's article in the May *DESERT* is one of the very best that I have read. The desert is our whole life—we live on the edge of the Mojave and spend most of our spare time camping in the back-country.

We see more vandalism and garbage along the main highways than we ever see along "jeep trails."

Let's keep the desert open to everyone who can enjoy it.

MERTON HUFFMAN
Lancaster, Calif.

To the Editor: We are ranchers, and quite disgusted with what Erle Stanley Gardner had to say about trail scooters. So the only objection to wheeled vehicles running over the country is the tracks we have to look at, is it? I'll tell you, Mr. Gardner, tires are darned hard on grass and weeds.

In our dry country the results of one wheeled trip show for months, and when there is a hard pull and wheels spin, the damage is permanent. A lawn is watered and pampered, but try running over it with a scooter or jeep and see if it ever looks the same.

Cars damage more range grass than do cows, horses and wildlife combined. I'll admit some ranchers run over their own grass in cars; they should spend more time on horseback to set an example.

RITA HILL
Shakespeare, N.M.

To the Editor: The American Motor Scooter Association is certainly on the right track as evidenced by their "be courteous on the trail" booklet.

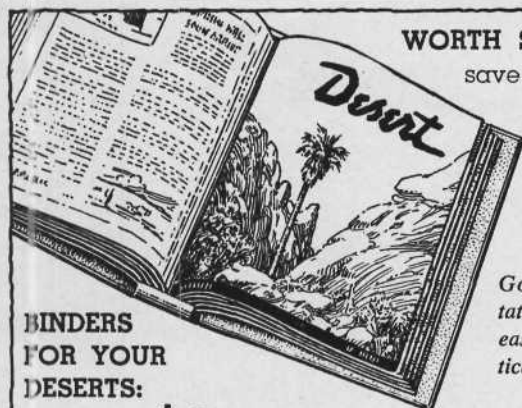
The California Association of Jeep Clubs is also pursuing this policy of "education for the outdoors." We are currently mailing to 45,000 registered owners of four-wheel-drive vehicles in California a brochure which stresses proper vehicle use in forest lands.

There is a great demand for motorized recreation, and the faster we can reach the newcomer with this information in regard to the protection and proper use of our natural resources and public domain, the greater will be our chances of enjoying what God has intended for us to enjoy.

A. V. NEELEY, president
California Association of Jeep Clubs, Inc.
Lynwood, Calif.

To the Editor: We've received our first copy of *DESERT*, and find, much to our disgust, several pages of illustrations and exploitations of trail scooters. Such mechanized equipment can mean the absolute ruination of much of our natural wild area. These machines will be sold in spite of us, but certainly a magazine of your caliber should not indulge in extending their empire.

DORIS ANGELROTH
Cudahy, Wisconsin



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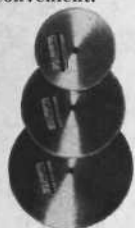


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Vertical Charcoal Broiler—

Here's a new outdoor cooker that offers something different. It's a charcoal broiler called the Broiloaster, featuring a vertical grill within which the char-



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coal burns, throwing out heat on either side to cook meat held parallel to the heating surfaces. This system eliminates smoke and char from messy food drippings onto briquets, says the manufacturer, and leaves meats more juicy after broiling. The user can utilize the top of the vertical charcoal broiler for boiling, frying, or baking at the same time. A special drip pan, extension legs, and carrying handle is included in the price of \$9.95. Total weight is only 9 pounds. Construction is of nickel-plated steel. Dept. D, Broiloaster Co., 738 Cline St., Huntington, Indiana.

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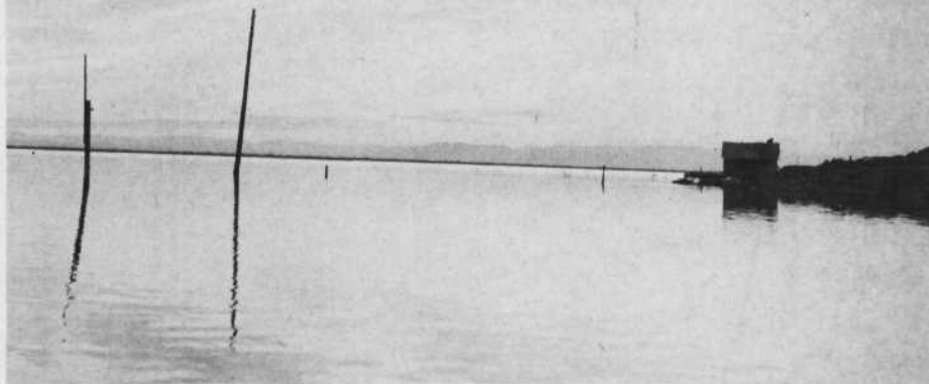
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SALTON SEA's Ghost Island

see this month's cover



PARTLY SUBMERGED TELEPHONE POLES STAND GUARD OVER MULLET ISLAND (RIGHT). DESERTED SHACK IS ONE OF MANY ABANDONED WHEN THE SALTON WATERS ROSE.

L ONELY AND abandoned, Mullet Island once knew a wealth of human life. In the late 1940s it was the base for a commercial silver mullet fishery; several duck clubs were located nearby in lush green reeds; a hot springs bath-house and rental cabins were available; there was a dance hall, with a veranda on stilts over the water (this month's cover was photographed from within the dance hall); and a colorful character named Charles E. "Cap" Davis, owner of the Mullet resort, painted portraits of geese, swans, quail,



SOUTH-SIDE OF ISLAND MAKES BEST BOAT LANDING BUT WATER IS SHALLOW, WITH MANY SUNKEN HAZARDS. OLD DANCE HALL, IN BACKGROUND.

gulls and mullet on seemingly every large flat surface he could find on the island: walls, ceilings, floors and porch overhangs. □ By the fall of 1948, it became apparent that the rising waters of Salton Sea would cut through the low-lying arm of the peninsula and surround the point of high ground known today as Mullet Island. A concerted effort was made to build-up the roadway with gravel, but the trucks could not keep pace with the rising sea, and the newborn island and its facilities



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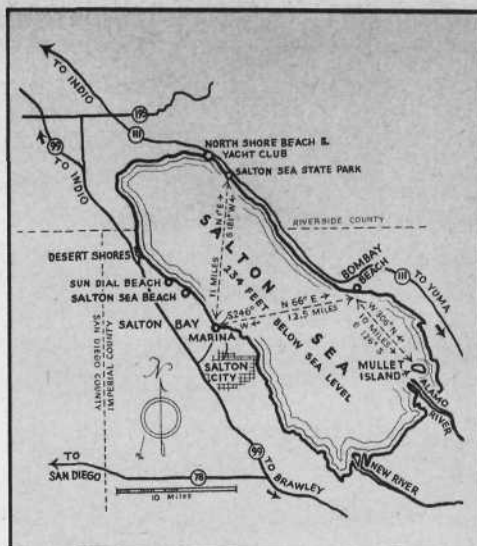
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Southwest Travel

Desert Magazine
Palm Desert, Calif.

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were abandoned. The land, however, remains private property, and vandals and other undesirable trespassers are subject to prosecution. □ It is these vandals—more than the wind, sun and rain of the past decade—who have left the island in its present sorry state. They tore down the buildings, paintings and all, and burned them for firewood; duck hunters used standing walls for target practice. Whole cabins were burned to the



ground, and oil-drum stoves pitched into the sea. □ A line of power poles still stands along the submerged road which once connected the high ground of the point with the mainland. One by one they too will rot and crumble, or be blown down by the fierce winds that sometimes rake this area. □ Raw sewage dumped into Salton Sea via the New and Alamo rivers has caused a ring of pollution stretching for several miles outward from Mullet Island. Water skiing, swimming and wading are definitely not recommended here; and because of the shallow water, boaters should restrict speed when approaching the island. □ Vandalism and polluted water do not add up to a very pretty picture, but Mullet Island does have its appeal. It is the same appeal of all lonely and forsaken places on the desert that once knew the sounds of honest labor and of music and laughter. □ The island lies atop a fault, and sometimes the ground rumbles underfoot. Gas bubbles pop in the water offshore (the famed Salton Sea Mud Pots, now inundated, are a mile south of the island). At night the sound of geese and ducks is heard, the unbelievably huge moon reflects off the water, and the sweet smell of alfalfa blows in from the fields of mainland farms.



A "CAP" DAVIS PAINTING WHICH THE MULLET ISLAND VANDALS MISSED



LOOKING THROUGH THE DANCE HALL'S MAIN ENTRANCE TO A CRUMBLING BUILDING



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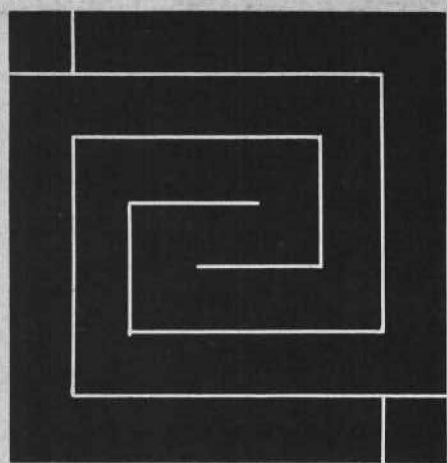
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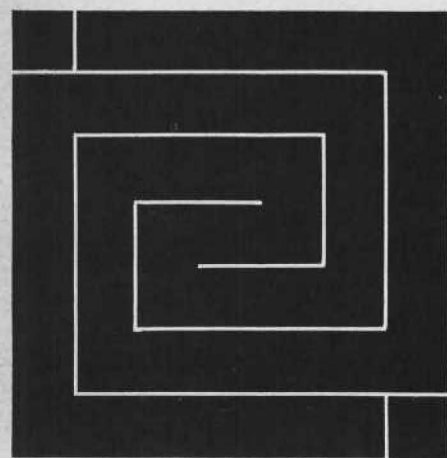
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DESIGN FOR THE DESERT



quotations from
**FRANK
LLOYD
WRIGHT**

In 1938, Frank Lloyd Wright established a winter headquarters in Paradise Valley, Arizona, for his architectural fellowship. Here during the five winter months, students and master worked and studied and observed the desert and with their own hands built Taliesin West. The basic building material was "desert concrete"—native boulders and cement cast into forms; and above the massive foundations and walls, redwood and canvas. In the opinion of one architectural critic, Taliesin West is the most impressive structure erected in the Western Hemisphere since the days of the Mayans. Wright died in April, 1959, but the work of the fellowship continues, as does his influence on architecture throughout the world.

Inner-court and pool at Taliesin West ➤

"A desert building should be nobly simple in outline as the region itself is sculptured; should have learned from the cactus many secrets of straight-line-patterns for its forms, playing with the light and softening the building into its proper place among the organic desert creations — the man-made building heightening the beauty of the desert and the desert more beautiful because of the building."

.

"Man's imagination is none too lively, at best, but the task is not too great to harmonize his building masses with topography and typify his building-walls with the nature-creation they consort with, by taking the abstract design inherent in all desert fabric of his own work whenever he, himself, makes anything. That is to say, he should be able to make the essential spirit of the thing, however or whatever it is, come through as objective."

. "I suggest that the dotted line



ine is the line for the desert; not the hard line nor the knife edge." • • • • •

"The ever advancing human threat to the integral beauty of Arizona might be avoided if the architect would only go to school to the desert in this sense and humbly learn harmonious contrasts or sympathetic treatments that would, thus, quietly belong. The climate of this region abhors the 'box'."

• • • • •

"Life in the desert is especially a revelation of sun-life . . . here the sun is seen at its creative best. One might say it is more primitive in its

design and so nearer to the significance of point, line, and plane that we call architecture."

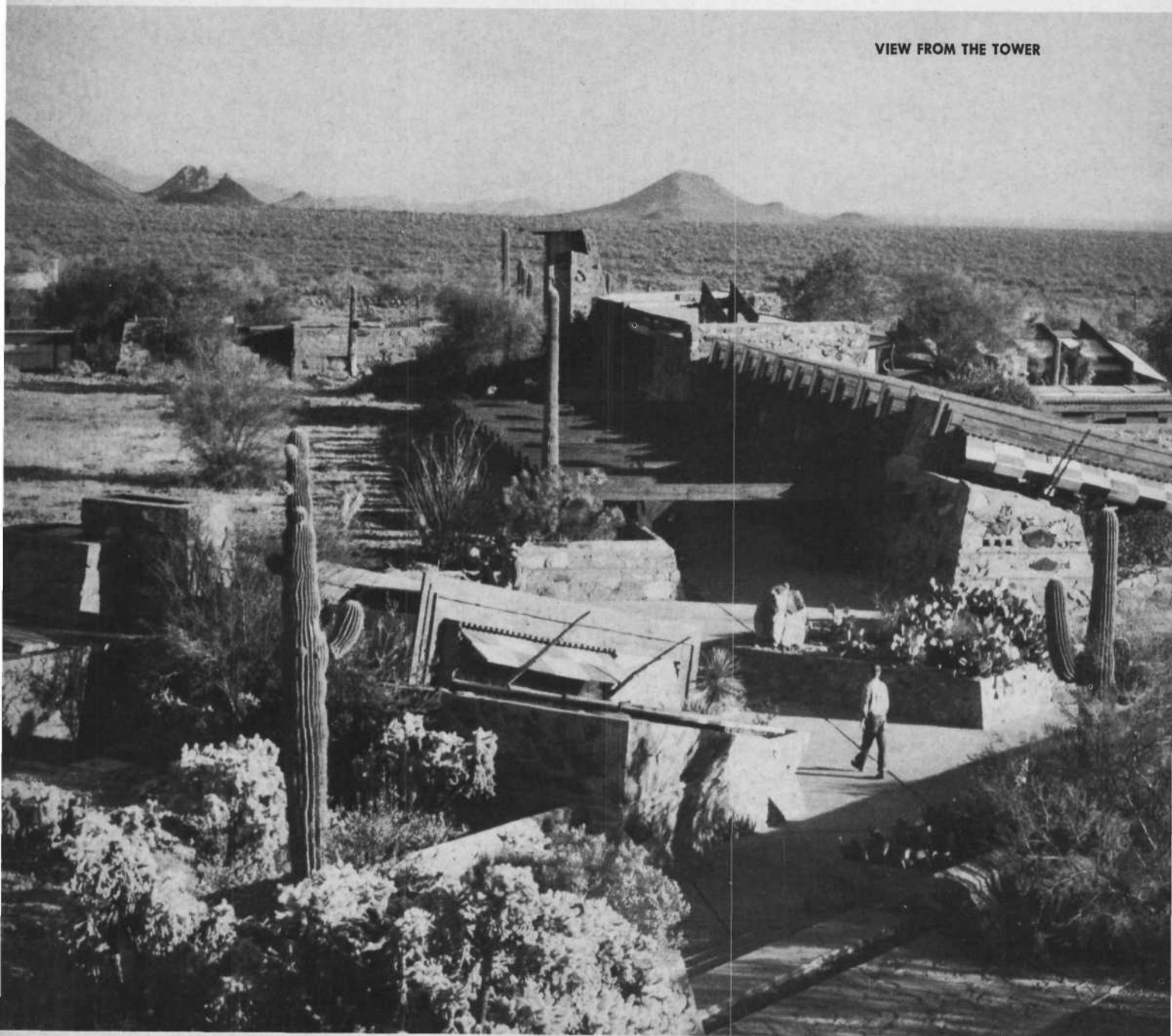
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"The desert, with its rim of arid mountains spotted like the leopard's skin or tattooed with amazing patterns of creation, is a grand garden the like of which in sheer beauty of reach, space, and pattern does not exist, I think, in the world."

• • • • •

"The desert is no place for the hard box-walls of the houses of the Midwest and East. Here all

VIEW FROM THE TOWER



is sculptured by wind and water, patterned in color and texture."

"I, for one, dread to see this incomparable nature garden marred, eventually spoiled by fancy period-house builders, as well as the Hopi Indian imitators, or imitation Mexican 'hut' builders."

"The Indian Hopi-house is not a desert house in any true sense. The Hopi imitation . . . is too loud. The projecting poles soften it with shadows a very little; the native Indian got that far with it."

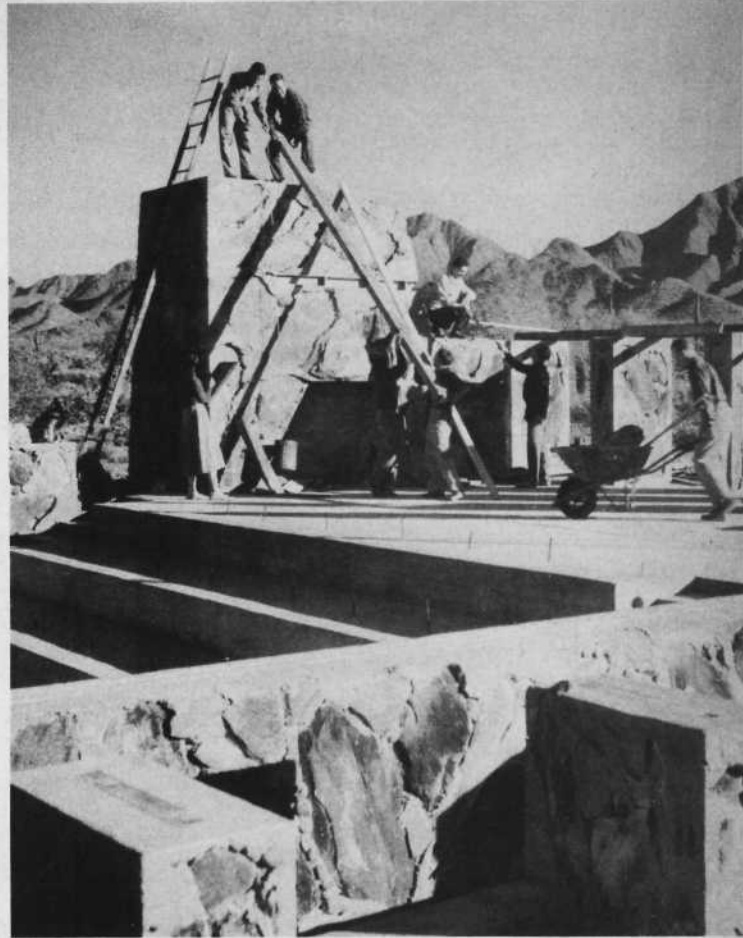
"Plain white house walls defy the sun and jump to your eyes from the desert 40 miles or more away. They are not true desert buildings in any cultivated sense."

"Anyone may see that the desert abhors sun-defiance as nature abhors a vacuum. This universal sun-acceptance by way of pattern is a condition of survival and is everywhere evident. That means integral-ornament in everything. Sun-acceptance in building means that dotted-line in outline and wall-surfaces that eagerly take the light and play with it and break it up and render it harmless or drink it in until sunlight blends the building into place with the creation around it."

"Nature never sticks ornament onto anything. She gets it all out from the inside of the thing the way it grows. It is always *of* the thing—integral. We are just now trying to think ornament useless or continue to go wrong with it by trying to emphasize with it when Nature intended it to soften, conceal, and harmonize."

"Is this organic abstraction, as expression, too difficult for us? All right then: cover up your walls, plant trees and vines and water them well. But plant trees and vines native to the condition here. Be quiet—at any cost. Blot out your clumsy intrusions as you best can. It is the only apology you can make to the desert."

"All cities are increasingly slums. Thus, the conservation of desert creation grows even more important."



LEARN BY DOING. HERE FUTURE ARCHITECTS DO HEAVY CONSTRUCTION WORK ON TALIESEN WEST.



WRIGHT (DARK SUIT) AT COURTYARD ENTRANCE ///

One Day in the Desert



"I wonder what we will find," said Chrystal. "It looks like the surface of the moon." "Maybe there's nothing there at all," said Dixie. "It looks kind of bare and scary."

The photographs on these four pages were taken by Dick Snyder of San Diego, whose book for children, *One Day at the Zoo*, was recently published by Charles Scribners Sons. Snyder is currently developing a series of books on the Southwest as a prelude to a series of educational motion pictures on this subject. Of the "desert day" he writes: "Having just moved from the Midwest, one of the greatest thrills came to my three daughters when we took our first trip to the Anza-Borrego country. Everything was foreign and fascinating." Further reactions to the strange land appear in the photo captions.



Chrystal made the first discovery. There are no leaves on the smoke tree.

*"Ouch," said Linda.
"I think the cactus
spines stung me!"*



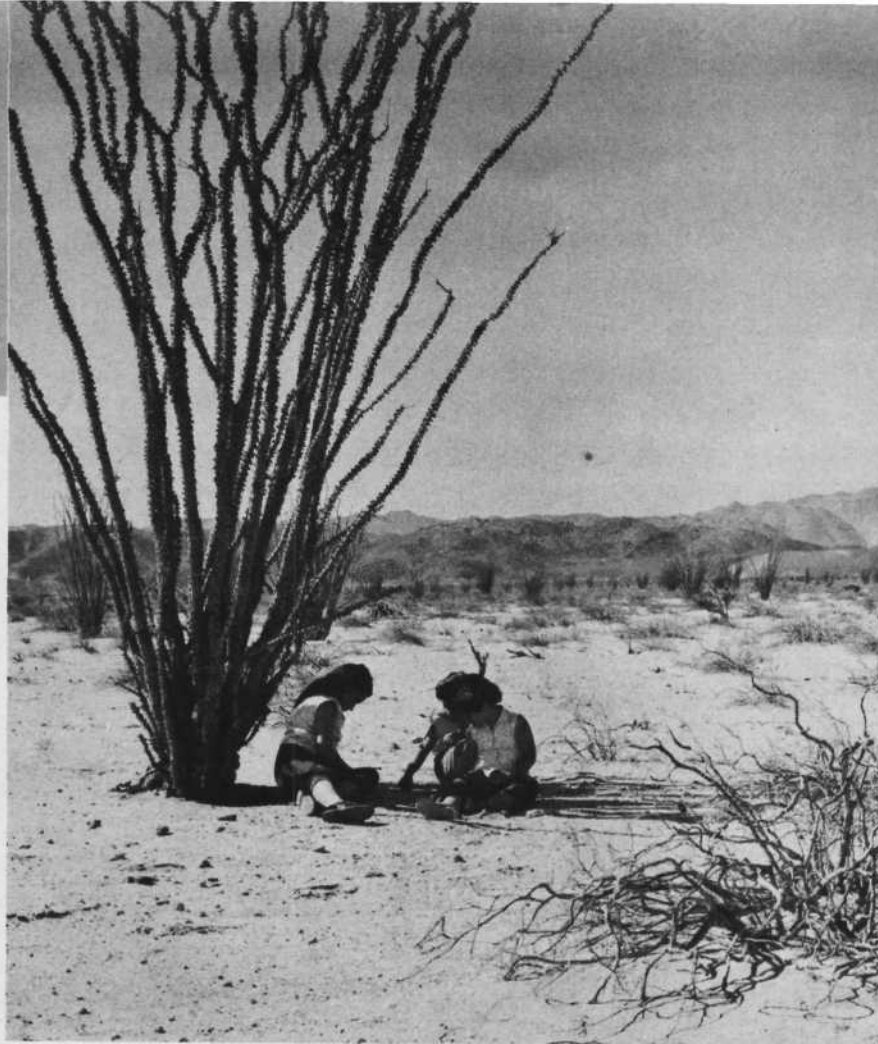
*"The sand is all curled up real funny," said Linda.
"Oh, look, a little animal came to drink," said Dixie,
"before the sun dried up all the water..." "...and
turned it into hard-pan," Chrystal added.*



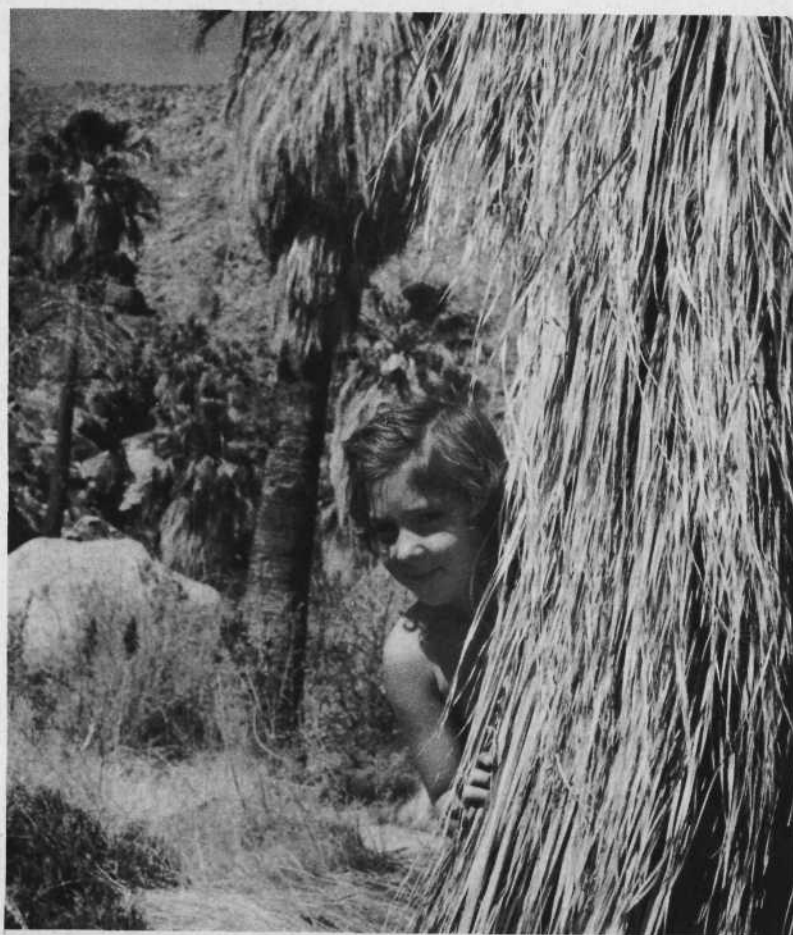
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One
Day
in
the
Desert

(continued)



*They found an
ocotillo and sat in
its shade.*



*There were hundreds
of palm trees, all with
long dry skirts.
"Peek—over here,"
cried a little face.*



*"Oh, we're thirsty," they said. "How do we drink?"
 "Cup your hand," said Mother, "and scoop the
 water into your mouth." Where palms grow, there
 is always water.*

*The hike back to the car was even hotter, and little feet
 were getting tired. It was time to rest. ///*



THE BEAUTIFUL Smoke Tree (*Dalea spinosa*), which we living in Southern California and Southern Arizona deserts often consider to be a plant well-known and quite plentiful, is really a tree of rarity being confined wholly to the southern part of our warmest California and Arizona deserts, to northwestern Sonora, and a long eastern strip along the Gulf of Baja California at altitudes from 5 to 1500 feet.

In searching the accounts of the early botanically-bent travelers, I find that almost all were impressed by this charming tree of the wastelands. It was first described in botanical literature in 1855 by the great American botanist, Asa Gray, from specimens included in those intriguing bundles of plants collected and sent in from the "Arroyas of the Gila (River in Arizona); and on the desert west of the Colorado" by such early explorers of the new Far West as John C. Fremont and George Thurber.

To a Smoke Tree, sand is almost as essential as water and bright sunshine; not just sand found anywhere, but the deep sand that occurs in the desert wadis or washes where from time to time the water of summer's drenching cloudbursts and big winter rains flow and soak deeply below the sand and gravel surface. This is why we never see this charming tree (often a shrub) on the rocky hill-sides, on the open creosote bush desert, or the barren flats; not even on dunes, despite their deep sand in abundance.

Moreover, the places where the Smoke Tree grows must be largely free from frost. In Smoke Tree areas it is easy to see where the heavy frosts strike from time to time, for there one notices soon after frost all the trees appearing quite, if not wholly, dead, with all the thorns turning brownish as though wilted

by fire. Some of the trees never recover, although many sprout new branches when new rains and warmer days appear.

As long as their penetrative roots can take water from the desert's deep moist sands, these trees care little how hot the air temperatures are, nor how intensely the sun's rays strike them. In fact, they seem to actually rejoice in torrid heat and the bright glare reflecting from the whitish sands.

Other than the actual sight of the living tree in its desert setting, only a colored illustration is really adequate to give one an idea of this tree's magnificence of form and color. The younger symmetrical trees, with their adornment of intricately arranged hoary green leafless thorn-tipped short branches, are the most beautiful, but some of the very old, rather ragged appearing trees have trunks of appealing color and grotesque form. The old veterans, gnarled, gray-barked and rough surfaced, are symbols of patience. Long have they been buffeted by wind and sand-laden flood waters; but yet they doggedly hang on to life. However, even these "old" trees are not really old, perhaps but 30 to 40 years at most. Quick to grow, they are also quick to die, compared to most trees of the desert wilderness. The largest one in diameter that I have ever seen measured 12½ inches at base. It was nearly 20 feet high. Most trees have trunk diameters nearer 5 to 7 inches.

The Smoke Tree is intolerant of salt and alkali, hence never found on the flat-surfaced dry lakes or in washes just as they enter them. In many of the washes of the chimes entering into the Gulf of California are found beautiful Smoke Tree colonies, but they approach only to the sand above salt water penetration.

The seeds of the Smoke Tree sprout

readily, provided they first have had their hard coats etched thin by blowing sand or gravel, or better yet, by sand and gravel carried by fast flowing storm waters.

Next they need to lie awhile in sand with plenty of moisture in the depth below so that the young tap root will quickly anchor itself and penetrate deeply. Also there must be warm sunshine. These requirements are best provided in summer.

On the young plants first appear two broad and elongate gland-dotted gray green leathery yet velvety leaves. These are often the only leaves the tree ever has. From then on, as a rule, only the main stems and numerous short thorn-tipped branches are produced. These juvenile trees grow rapidly and, full of vigor and new growth, develop beautiful hoary-green crowns, amazing to behold, especially by moonlight when they appear as feathery ghosts on the white sands of their wash homes.

It is only after the trees mature that they ornament themselves with bloom. Let deep penetrating rains fall and the trees are certain to break into flower. The usual flowering period is early summer, but I have seen individual trees blooming even in late summer.

The pealike flowers are deep purple or blue, generally produced in such abundance that the whole tree is a solid mass of rich color; and from the flowers comes a fine sweet perfume that fills all the air. Especially is it noticeable in the still air of early morning, at evening time, or in the still of night.

Each flower rests within a deep cup, silky-surfaced and bell shaped, and with large ovate teeth about the edge. Both this cup (the calyx) and the short fat tailed pod that holds the seeds are beset with conspicuous

SMOKE TREE

By EDMUND C. JAEGER

author of "DESERT WILDFLOWERS," "THE CALIFORNIA DESERTS,"
"OUR DESERT NEIGHBORS," "THE NORTH AMERICAN DESERTS"

jewellike amber-colored glands. The glands are filled with a waxy exudate which when crushed yields a rich spicy odor.

The Smoke Tree's wood is brittle, whether green or dry, and light in weight. It never yields a long lasting flame, although it is plenty hot to make a good fire for the camp. The coals soon cool, seldom lasting through the night to serve as a starter for the breakfast fire as do those of the harder woods such as larrea, ironwood, mesquite and catsclaw.

Other than Cactus Wrens, which always like thorns, and the peppery-tempered Verdins, few birds choose the dense mass of thorny branchlets

of Smoke Trees for nesting sites. Occasionally a Gambel Quail will hide her nest on the ground underneath the cover of thorns, but I have never seen them alighting or roosting in this fragile desert tree. The stronger, more generously limbed mesquites and desert willows are among their most preferable places for spending the night. On the sands beneath Smoke Trees there is always daytime shade where these intelligent gentle birds find shelter from the heat.

Jackrabbits may nibble away some of the lower thorny Smoke Tree branchlets with which to make a "form" or daytime hideaway and place to avoid the sun's glare.

The ordinarily inconspicuous sidewinder also seeks hot noon shelter there. Since its body is so very near the color of both sand and Smoke Tree, it is very difficult to see. Often the only announcement of its presence is the sound of its rather faint rattle.

The Smoke Tree's great enemies are wind, flood waters and drouth. Of insect or other animal enemies there are few. The young trees are often washed out by summer floods; equally often they perish because of long rainless seasons. The older trees less often suffer from floods and drouth. It is the strong winds that

continued on page 37

THE INDIGO SPLENDOR OF A SMOKE TREE IN BLOOM. PHOTOGRAPH BY JOSEF MUENCH.



1776 1899
HURRAH!
 FOR THE
FOURTH



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JOHANNESBURG

Stupendous and Spectacular
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\$10,000 WORTH OF FIREWORKS AT SUNRISE
 TWICE AS MUCH AT SUNDOWN



GRAND PARADE AT 5 A.M. 45,000 MEN IN LINE
 MUSIC BY MARINE BAND, LED BY
 CITIZENS IN AUTO MOBILES - MAYOR ON
 CHAUTAUQUA CLUB ON BURRO'S

PYROTECHNIC ORATION BY THE
 LITERARY EXTENSION BY

The Oldtime Glorious Fourth

By PEGGY TREGO

They used to call it the Glorious Fourth in the oldtime mining camps of the desert. By "glorious" they meant loud, proud, colorful, sentimental and flamboyant—all wrapped in star-spangled yards of red, white and blue, and resounding to oratory, band music and gunpowder.

To a West still new, the celebration of America's Independence had a very personal connotation; something of the hardships of the 1770s was echoed in the more recent travail of bringing civilization to a forbidding frontier. The spirit of independence was a part of everyday life. Added to this was the happy fact that the Glorious Fourth came in hot summertime—the one holiday of the year sure to have good weather. Sunshine and patriotism went hand in hand.

As a rule in the Nineteenth Century (and even during the first decade of the Twentieth), one

continued on page 30

ON BY THE HON. M. FRENCHY
 MARY EXERCISES WILL BE COMMENCED
 BY READING OF THE RIOT ACT

MARSHAL OF THE DAY
 A Copper from Copper City

\$20,000 IN PRIZES

Prize-fight, Gun-fight, Dog-fight, Free for all fight, Raising Pole,
 Climbing Greased Pig, Ore Sack race, Chinese race,
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Prize to go to the Homeliest Single Woman present, between the
 ages of 20 and 50. All members of Teachers Convention at
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THEN AS NOW, PRETTY GIRLS WERE THE MOST
 IMPORTANT DECORATION ON A HOLIDAY FLOAT



"... the tragedy is that the Southwestern
environment is being increasingly
used and exploited in ways peculiarly unsuited
to ... its unique character."

MAN'S MARK ON THE DESERT

By JOSEPH WOOD KRUTCH

The published works of Josef Wood Krutch are familiar to all observers of the Southwest scene: *The Desert Year*, *The Voice of the Desert*, *The Great Chain of Life*, *Grand Canyon*, and *The Forgotten Peninsula*.

LIKE MANY another I came to the desert primarily to live in it rather than to make a living out of it. Like most of us I was, nevertheless, obliged to do both but I was fortunate in that I was a writer who did the desert no harm even when it was the subject of my writing. Physically, I have left it no less beautiful than it was.

Not everyone who wants, or for some reason is compelled, to live here can make his living without to some extent changing the environment in which he lives. The more our population increases the more obviously this is true.

To suppose that our deserts can remain everywhere as open and as spacious as they once were is impossible. To some extent it is inevitable that they will be used for something besides the study, the contemplation and the admiration of their unique beauties.

But there are suitable and unsuitable ways of "using" and even of "exploiting" a given environment; and the tragedy is that the Southwestern environment is being increasingly used and exploited in ways peculiarly unsuited to, and sometimes completely destructive of, its unique character. People with no sense of its special opportunities and attractions, with no appreciation of them and no desire that they should be preserved, come among us to build factories and even to raise unwanted cotton. Thus they create problems as well as destroy beauties in a region where industry and some kinds of agriculture are impossible without the permanent depletion of underground water.

In our most selfish moments some of us wish that no more people would come here or, perhaps, less drastically, that no one would come except those who would like, and are able, to make their living in ways which do not destroy the special advantages and pleasure of desert living. If even that is too much to hope for (or even wish) then could we not try to persuade communities not actively to promote "development" and "progress" of the most unsuitable kinds?

Tucson is no longer recognizable as the town I came to live in some dozen years ago. Large areas of what was then open deserts have been stripped of their natural growth, covered with hastily built houses crowded one upon another and, at best, now surrounded by struggling grass plots which not only require the expenditure of precious water but are aesthetically unsatis-



Joseph Wood Krutch

fying because they simply do not fit the landscape. Twelve years ago the Catalina Mountains, 10 miles from my front porch, stood out in clear bold outline made changingly beautiful with each shift of the shadows from sunrise to sunset. Today it is rare to see them not blurred by haze, and from the summit one looks down upon a pall of smoke and dust which lies like an ugly lake over the town. Newcomers are quite right to ask me where are the clean pure air and the sparkling night skies which I described so enthusiastically in my first book about the desert. "Progress" has taken away from me both my invigorating air and my brilliant stars.

No doubt some of all this is an inevitable result of the exploding population of the United States. But the major effort of the community has been not to mitigate but increase it. Many of those who first came here because Tucson was what it then was, have most illogically done all they could to turn it into something else. "We mustn't," they say, "stagnate" . . . But why was it necessary to "promote" the community by making it their chief effort to destroy its uniqueness and to "bring industry" to a region which should never be industrialized? Why could they not have invited especially those people and encouraged especially those activities for which this region is suited? I have sometimes been asked ironically if my own

books had not encouraged in a small way the influx of population which I deplore. But at least, so I think, if it brought anyone here it would be the kind of person who would appreciate what I tried to describe rather than the kind which would destroy it.

Recently the climax of absurdity was reached when the Mayor and the Chamber of Commerce bestirred themselves as they never have in the interests of preserving any desirable feature of the region as a place to live. And for what? To make sure that the Armed Forces would ring the city with Titan missile bases, thus making Tucson (so we are told by responsible authorities) one of the most dangerous places in the United States to live should war break out. Why? Because it is a patriotic duty? Not at all. Because it will bring more people and more money to our town.

When it was definitely announced that the boon would be conferred upon us, the city fathers rejoiced publicly—though I suspect that by now they are beginning to doubt whether, even from the promoter's standpoint, the bases are an advantage.

Some people at least do not chose the slopes of a volcano as an ideal place to live. And unfortunately those who are attracted only by the commercial opportunities provided by a multimillion dollar enterprise are precisely the kind most likely to be completely indifferent to what the Southwest alone has to offer.

A few years ago I was put in a position where it was difficult to refuse an invitation from the Rotary Club to speak briefly at one of its luncheons on the subject, "Tucson as a Place for Writers." I decided that, instead of being politic and polite, I would let myself go. It was still, I said, a fairly good place. But it was a much less good one than it had been when I had come not long before. And it was becoming decreasingly so with every passing day. "Whenever I see one of those posters which reads 'Help Tucson Grow,' I say to myself 'God forbid.' I suggest that the Rotary Club adopt a new motto: 'Keep Tucson Small!'"

Next day the brief item in the local newspaper said "Most of the audience assumed that Dr. Krutch had a tongue in his cheek." But why should they have supposed anything of the sort? Only because they found it impossible to imagine that anyone would put a healthy, pleasant, and beautiful environment before such things as the possibility of making a good profit in a real estate deal. Still, such people do exist

and they are the kind who first chose to live in Tucson.

An "inquiring reporter" on the same newspaper told me that he stopped a number of people on the street, asked the following questions and got, almost invariably, the following answers:

"Do you like to see more industry brought to Tucson?"

"Yes."

"Do you think that would make our city a pleasanter place to live?"

"No."

"Then why do you want industry brought here?"

"Well, you can't oppose Progress can you?"

Nothing could illustrate more simply what is perhaps the most fundamental and dangerous error of our civilization: the tendency to make size, wealth and power as the highest goods to which both the spiritual and the physical health of human beings must be sacrificed. We no longer ask "What is a Good Life?"; but only what is a "prosperous" one."

Not even the most simple and obvious steps are taken to preserve the special amenities of desert living. Even the zoning laws which were supposed to do just that have become a farce. When I acquired my few acres, the regulations forbade more than one house per two acres. Now I am within the city limits and four houses per acre is the permissible number. When an area is zoned as for residence only, that means merely that you can't put a commercial building there—until someone wants to. Then the zoning will be changed. Who wants such changes? Not usually the people who hoped to continue to live under the conditions which led them to build a house there in the first place, but rather those who want to move out and make a profit.

Does all this mean that the desert, with all it has meant to many of us and might mean to generations still to come, is doomed to disappear in the not too distant future—unless indeed a fundamental change of heart should take place in the majority of the citizens who direct our destinies? Perhaps. Perhaps, on the other hand, there is a partial solution—namely the preservation of some sections of it as public land explicitly reserved in Parks, Monuments and Wilderness Areas. It is far more rewarding to be able to *live* in the desert than merely to visit it. But that is at least better than nothing and

the recognition of "wilderness areas" (including desert wildernesses) as having a value for and in themselves is a step forward.

Even that is being strenuously opposed. Against it two arguments are raised. One is that we simply cannot afford to withdraw from possible "use" any more of our country. The other argument is that comparatively few will visit genuine wilderness areas as distinguished from "developed" National Parks, and that it is therefore "undemocratic" to set them aside.

But to these two arguments there are two good answers. One is that the minority which would visit the wildernesses is not an insignificant one, and that respect for minority rights is the reverse of "undemocratic." The other is that the mere knowledge that areas of unspoiled nature do exist can mean something even to those who never visit them. The old frontier has affected the imagination of millions of Americans who never saw it. They knew that it was there and that they could reach it if they wished. So too, the wilderness, whether of forest or desert, is still a home of the imagination. It is something to be dreamed about and read about, something still there, not something lost forever.

Should I ever be compelled to live elsewhere, and know that I should never see the desert again, it would still be some consolation to realize that it still existed to comfort and delight others.

We have reached another crisis similar to that successfully passed in the days of Theodore Roosevelt when the cry "conservation" was first raised. The problem is more difficult now than it was then for the simple reason that available areas have shrunk at the same time that more of them are being claimed as indispensable to the practical needs of a fast growing nation. We shall certainly not reach a solution unless we want to, unless a sufficient number of us are convinced that nature has something to say to man's mind, to his spirit, and to his aesthetic sense which technology with all its wonders and all its benefits cannot supply the lack of.

Secretary of the Interior Stewart Udall has recently suggested that two percent of the area of our country be reserved in the form of areas where nature holds sway and creates the beauties which only she can create. Some—many I fear—see no good reason why we should do anything of the sort. But can anyone sincerely maintain that we "cannot afford" two percent of this great continent for any purpose regarded even by a minority as useful? We are not that poor in either land or resources. ///

By Frank Jensen

RIVERMAN

For nearly half a century, Art Greene has plied the Colorado River with his Canyon Tours, living a life for which some men would trade fame and fortune. Greene, one of the oldest living rivermen on the Colorado, is a rare combination of adventurer and successful businessman.

Art began his western career as a rancher and cow-puncher in Colorado. "I got out of the business when the government started knowing more about raising cows than I did," he snorted. The love of life fills this garrulous 66-year-old man who would rather have a "million friends than a million dollars."

The youthful Greene first started running dudes in flimsy wooden boats down the San Juan River in the 1920s. The fare in those days was five dollars a head, and passengers were hauled back upriver in team and wagon. Standard gear for a Greene tour of the river today includes modern inboard and outboard powerboats, and an airplane flies his passengers to the rendezvous point.

Not only have times changed, but the river is undergoing a \$421 million face-lifting with the construction of the Glen Canyon Dam. "In a way I hate to see it come," says the veteran riverman, commenting dryly that the coming of the dam has caused him to feel something like a "bob-tail cow in fly season, not knowing which way to turn." Three years ago Greene signed a long-term lease with the National Park Service as sole concessionaire on the Wahweap arm of the 186-mile-long reservoir. Situated on a sandy point six miles from the dam, and with the lake soon to be lapping at his doorsteps, Art Greene's newly founded enterprise couldn't be more happily situated. The fact that Art has the best spot on the Colorado River

wasn't just luck, although luck had something to do with it.

Fifteen years ago, when Bureau of Reclamation surveys for a possible dam-site were started in Glen Canyon, Greene knew he would be left in the back-water unless he did something about it. He organized his own surveys, flying in airplanes, and bouncing across the country in trucks, horses and mules. When he couldn't drive any further, he went on foot, surveying with altimeter every possible site above the 3700-foot elevation, high-water mark of the future lake. In 1946, Greene leased six sections of school land from the State of Arizona, and people commented: "Look at that crazy Art Greene spending good money on worthless land."

"Nowadays," Greene chuckles, "they say: 'I wonder where Greene got his political drag.'"

The Glen Canyon Reservoir—Lake Powell—will inundate great parts of this fascinating red-rock canyon country. "But, for every mile of canyon buried under the lake, you open 100 miles of shoreline," says Greene. He is thinking in terms of a yacht or ferry capable of carrying 90 passengers to Rainbow Bridge, now reached by a three-day trip. The National Park Service estimates that the Glen Canyon Dam and Lake Powell National Recreation Area will have a million visitors annually by 1964. The number could rise to three million once the lake is filled.

Changing with the times is part of Art Greene's nature. "If you can't lick 'em, jine 'em," he laughs. He has traveled the 3000-mile length of the river from its headwaters to the Gulf of California, and can look back to the time when there were no big dams—only an untamed watercourse that could send its flood waters surging into the Gulf, or

dry to a trickle in drouth years. For 40 years Art has rubbed shoulders with most of the old-time rivermen—Nate Galloway, Norman Nevills, Frank Dodge, Burt Loper . . .

The venerable Loper, who died in the rapids of Marble Canyon at the age of 80, was a close friend of Greene's. "The day before he made his last trip, he came to me with two letters," Art recalls. "He said to tear them up if he made it; to mail them if he didn't."

Norman Nevills was the first man to prove the river could be exploited commercially. Greene recalls the day when he came across Nevills standing on his head on a log, in the middle of the stream, waving his feet in the air. "You got a show when you was with Norm," Greene recalled. Nevills and wife Doris died in an airplane crash in 1949 near their home in Mexican Hat.

Nate Galloway was the first riverman after Major John Wesley Powell, to take scientific expeditions through the canyons of the Colorado. He also perfected the famed Cataract boat used for running whitewater. Galloway's original design with a few modifications is still used today. Its rocker-shaped bottom enables the boat to ride, or rock, over the crest and through the trough of waves caused by submerged boulders.

"When they build those dams and clear up the river so we can see those rocks, I doubt if any of us will have the nerve to run it," quips Greene.

Art Greene probably knows the whims and fancies of the Colorado as well as any living man, and today is regarded as something of an institution on the river. Greene was the first to prove that canyon tours could be run upriver with power. Several years ago he caused something of a sensation by introducing a flat-bottomed boat driven by an airplane engine, patterned after the swamp buggy of the Florida Everglades.

Greene has reduced his Canyon Tours to something of a fine science since starting his commercial river business in the mid-1940s. For the 100-mile trip from



ART GREENE EXAMINES A PIECE OF RIVER DRIFTWOOD

Here he sends his unloaded boats upriver and the baggage by truck, then flies his passengers to the rendezvous point—all of which causes the bewildered greenhorn to wonder if it will all come out together.

"People," says Greene, "have the notion that the Colorado is a raging river of wild rapids and mysterious canyons." The trick for getting people to relax during those first few tense minutes lies in making everything seem so easy."

Art, who has had his passengers fall overboard, and has lost boats on "float-

ers" (half-submerged logs), likes to recall the case of a New York Circuit Court Judge who lost his glasses in the mighty river.

In his own whimsical story telling style, Greene describes the Judge "who wore thick specs" as sitting dejectedly by the river one morning.

"I said, 'Molley, what's the matter with the judge?' 'Oh, he really feels sorry for himself,' she answers. 'He lost his glasses, and without those darn specs he can't go to Rainbow Bridge, and that's what he made the trip to Utah for.'

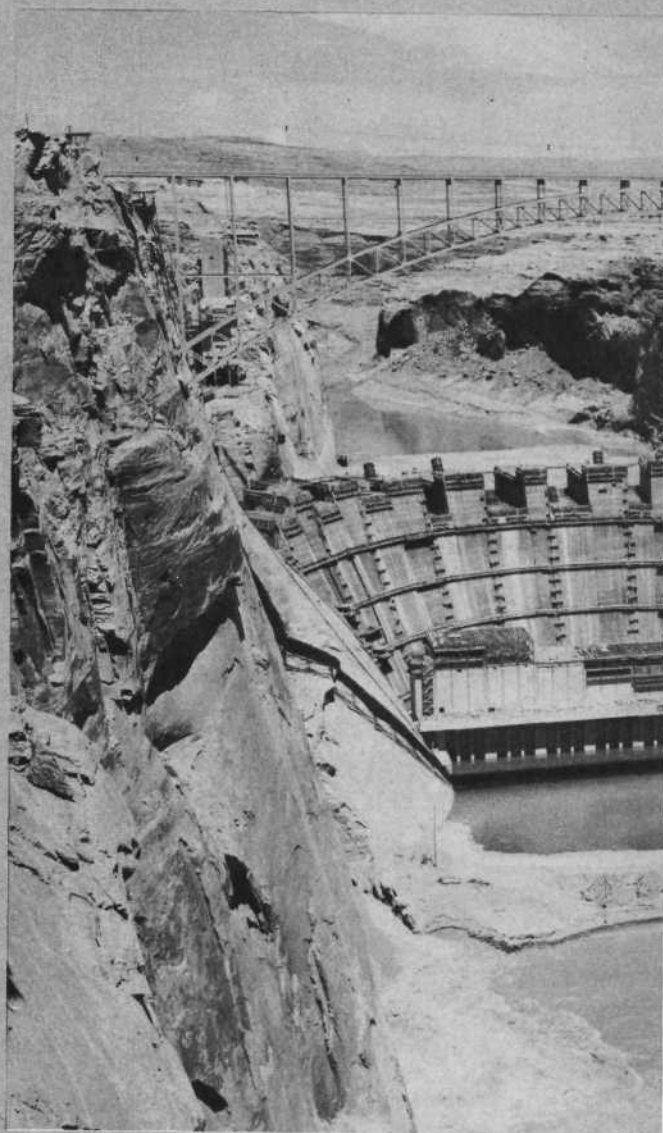
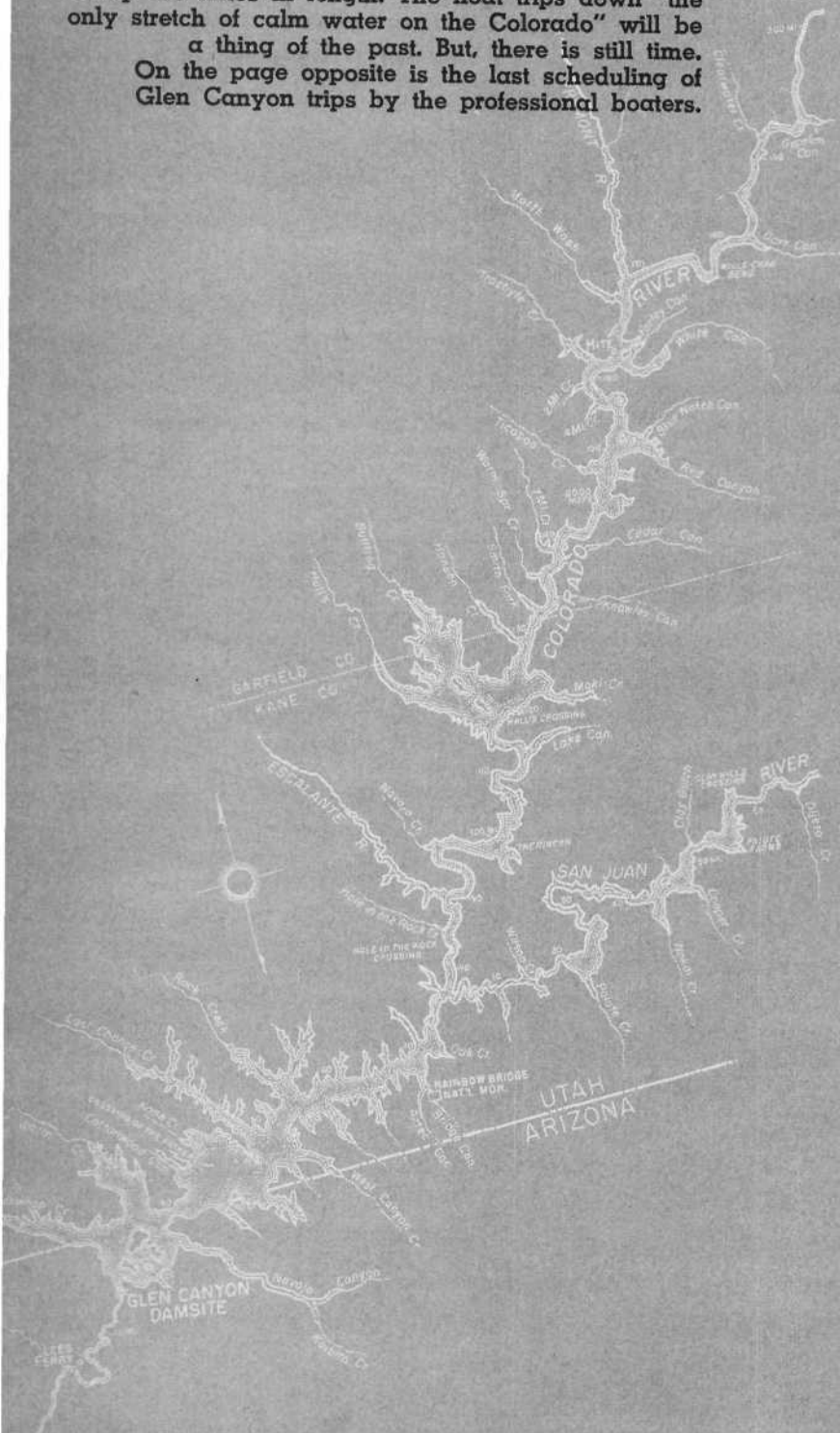
"So I said I'd go down and kinda pacify the old feller. 'Judge,' I ask, 'what's the matter?' He tells me how he dropped his glasses in the river. 'Well,' I says, 'where'd you drop them, judge?' Judge says, 'Right there.' So I reach down and pick up the glasses and hand them to him. He thought that wicked Colorado River had got them specs for good. Why, it wasn't over a couple inches deep." ///

**FOR MORE ON THE RIVER
TURN THE PAGE** ➤

Time for Leave - Taking . . .

The Glen Canyon Dam diversion tunnels will be closed in June, 1963, and initial storage of water will begin

... and then Glen Canyon will become a lake nearly 200 miles in length. The float trips down "the only stretch of calm water on the Colorado" will be a thing of the past. But, there is still time. On the page opposite is the last scheduling of Glen Canyon trips by the professional boaters.



Glen Canyon Dam now contains three million out of an eventual five million cubic yards of concrete. It is 437 feet high—when finished it will be 710 feet high. Concrete is now being placed in the dam at the rate of 800 cubic yards a day.

"It is a sublime panorama. The heart of the inner Plateau Country is spread out before us in a bird's eye view. It is a maze of cliffs and terraces lined off with stratification, of crumbling buttes, red and white domes, rock platforms gashed with profound canyons, burning plains barren even of sage—all glowing with bright color and flooded with blazing sunlight."

—C. E. Dutton, 1877.



SCHEDULE

Farewell Voyages

Professional Boatmen

Glen Canyon Boating (Gay Staveley) **White Canyon, Utah**

Jetboat leaves Hite Ferry every Monday morning in July. Return to Hite on Thursday afternoons. Seven-day float trips scheduled in August and September (leave Hite on Aug. 1, 15 and Sept. 1, 15; end at Kane Creek). Rates: 4-day jetboat: \$140; 7-day float: \$230.

* * *

Laurence Cooper and Sons **365 S. 300 West, Cedar City, Utah**

"Paddle through Glen Canyon" in special 18-foot closed-deck fiberglass boats. Six-day trips from Hite to Kane Creek depart on July 2, 9, 16, 23 and 30, and August 6. Rate: \$169.50.

* * *

Georgie White **435 West Laconia Blvd., Los Angeles 61, Calif.**

All of Georgie's summer boating trips are closed except the July 16-21 Glen Canyon float trip, from Hite to Page, Arizona. Rate: \$101.

* * *

Canyon Tours (Art Greene) **Box 1356, Page, Arizona**

Only the 4-day Glen Canyon trips remain open. Start from Wahweap Lodge near Page on July 21, August 16, September 11. Rate: \$132.

* * *

San Juan and Colorado Rivers Expeditions (Ken Ross) **Box 110, Bluff City, Utah**

Hite Ferry to Kane Creek, July 5-11, 14-20 and 25-31, August 8-14, 21-27. Rate: \$125. On September 2-11, Ross plans a "Glen Canyon Special"—rate: \$100.

* * *

Wonderland Expeditions (Ken Sleight) **6575 South Main, Bountiful, Utah**

All Glen Canyon trips begin at Hite at noon of: July 11, 22, August 1, 12, 22, September 2, 12, 23. Rate: \$100. Trips limited to 12 persons.

* * *

Lake Powell Ferry Service (J. Frank Wright) **Blanding, Utah**

Hite to Kane Creek trips planned for July 2-6, 9-13, 16-20 and 23-27. Rate: \$125.

* * *

Western River Tours (Harry Aleson) **Richfield, Utah**

Aleson plans a 14-day motorless run in October—"a farewell to Glen Canyon."

///

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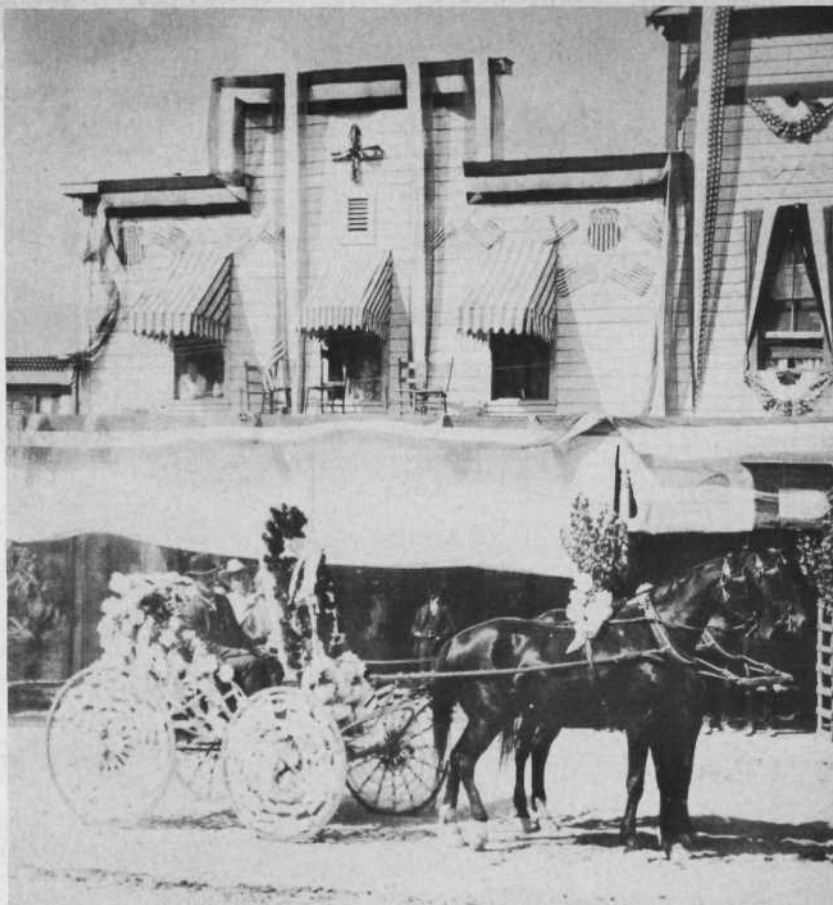
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OLDTIME FOURTH (continued from page 20)



UNDER THE BUNTING IS A BUGGY

town of each settled area put on the
Independence Day party for its neigh-
bors. The towns took turns, and
naturally vied with one another in
the quality and quantity of the fes-
tivities, but the general pattern of
celebration was the same everywhere.

There was sure to be noise. There
was sure to be a parade. Also neces-
sary was the long-winded program of
patriotic oratory led by a dignitary
called "Orator of the Day" (some-
times "President of the Day"). In-
cluded were readings of the Declara-
tion of Independence and, usually,
a lengthy original home-grown poem
with a patriotic theme. There was
food and drink, games and contests,
fireworks, and a Grand Ball. This,
with only slight variation, was the
recipe for a successful Fourth.

The great day began with explo-
sions. Firecrackers greeted the dawn
and continued through the day, while
storekeepers kept an eye on their
awnings. As the local firemen took
a big part in the ceremonial doings,
it was considered bad taste to call
them out for routine duty on such
a day. Firing of anvils dwarfed the
bang of firecrackers—a dangerous but
highly-regarded noise source whereby

the holes in an anvil were packed
with powder or other explosives,
capped and detonated. Now and
then an overloaded anvil jumped and
hurt somebody, and there was an
inevitable crop of mangled fingers
and singed faces among the small
fry with fireworks. Injuries were ex-
pected; even those in authority suf-
fered—witness George Cagwin who
officiated at Carson City's fireworks
display 67 years ago and suffered a
badly wounded eye.

Any town blessed with a cannon
held a few ceremonious firings of its
"iron bulldog" to add to the day's
lack of quiet. The *Esmeralda Star* of
1862 proudly reported that men of
the Esmeralda Rifles awakened the
town of Aurora by firing a "national
salute" at dawn with their new Minie
muskets. Poeville (commonly called
Podunk) got a head-start on the 1875
Glorious Fourth with 100 charges of
giant powder fired at one minute past
midnight.

Around noon everyone would turn
out to cheer the parade, led by a
band emphasizing martial spirit more
than music. (Typical was a band of
1873 consisting entirely of seven

horns and one drum.) First position of honor went to the veterans of various wars, who often carried the official flag. Next came the fire department, and glory to the town that had uniforms for its firemen or a hose cart or steamer to be pulled in the procession!

The firemen were always in the forefront on the Fourth. Not only were they an invaluable and sometimes heroic necessity in those early wooden towns, but fire department members represented an elite of the community's most responsible citizens. They were the town's army against the omnipresent enemy of fire, and as such took precedence over any regular militia (veterans excepted) that might be available to march. Thus in Aurora of 1862 the firemen and their hose cart "neatly adorned with flowers and evergreens" and graced with a small girl dressed in red, white and blue, led the Esmeralda Rifles. And thus in Carson City in 1895 the men of Warren Engine Co. and Curry Engine No. 1 got the largest amount of descriptive prose from no less a reporter than Alf Dolen despite marchers from the Carson Guard, National Guard and Comstock Artillery. Dolen reported that the Curry engine bore a "fire queen" and that Warren engine carried "a small tribe of Washoe Indians" surrounded by a herd of stuff animals.

In the same vein, early Reno always decorated its first (and for some years, only) fire engine—Central Pacific Railroad's yard locomotive No. 48—when the Fourth rolled around. (Many engines were used as pumpers.) No. 48 was all but obscured under its flags and bunting for the holiday; in 1877 the little engine was itself honored by the Fourth of July Benefit Ball which earned 500 feet of hose. The Ball, of course, also

benefitted Reno to the extent of 500 more feet of steam-pumped water.

Fraternal and social groups as well as commercial interests enthusiastically took part in the Fourth of July parades. Those who didn't decorate a wagon and ride thereon marched along on foot or rode horseback. Then, as now, the floats featured the town's prettiest girls. Tops in looks and popularity was the "Queen," dressed to represent Liberty, while other belles were costumed to represent the States, or such sterling characters as Hope, Faith, Charity, Religious Freedom and Tolerance.

Reno's 1876 parade is typical: First came the band, followed by 11 Mexican War veterans afoot; then Engine Co. No. 1's 40 uniformed members pulling a steam fire engine decked with flags and flowers, and the men of Hose Cart No. 1 pulling a decorated hand pump. Then came the engineer and firemen of No. 48, followed by a fully uniformed Knights of Pythias group on 12 matched black horses. A "Car of State" carrying 38 pretty girls dressed as Liberty and the States was loudly cheered, as was the six horse wagonload of pretty girls entered by the town's Library Association. Then came the commercial floats. Blacksmith McFarlin placed a forge on his wagon and pounded away the full line of march. W. J. Luke shod a horse atop his float! A thirsty crew followed the Washoe Brewery wagon and Jose's Soda Works cart, enjoying the free drinks dispensed along the way.

Dignitaries of the day always had a conspicuous place in the line of march — but in carriages so their breath would be saved for their speeches. The procession ended at the platform or pavilion set up for the program, where the crowd listened and applauded and perspired

heavily for hours. Pride, politics and prayer had their place here. Progress was always lauded. In Aurora in 1862 toasts were offered to everything from the Army to the ladies, not excluding the Overland Mail Route and the Pacific & Atlantic Telegraph Line. In Reno in 1868, the principal speaker was the Central Pacific's agent, D. H. Haskell, who had auctioned off the town's first lots not quite two months before and who extolled the "iron horse" in whose steam, said he, Reno was baptized.

Crystal Peak crowned its 1865 Fourth of July program with a poem by Lawrence Kords, leading doctor, poet and eccentric character of Galena, some 35 miles away, whose offering required 1½ galleys of 6-point type to reproduce.

After the program came the feasting, the games and the contests. The picnic was inherent in every Fourth celebration. That same Podunk which fired its anvils at midnight decorously traveled up into a canyon on Mt. Peavine later the same day for a town-sized picnic.

The average town, however, had its grand free feed within the town limits after the program, and the good ladies usually worked long and hard to provide food and drink for all comers. Sometimes local merchants and ranchers would combine for a bigger spread; one Nevada town's Independence Day visitors demolished two bullocks, eight sheep, two hogs, barrels of pork and beans, and 200 pounds of bread during the afternoon barbecue. Beverages ranged from lemonade to firewater.

Contests were popular entertainment. Stalwart miners wielded single-jacks to see who could drive the deepest hole into solid rock. Foot-



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Glen Canyon Voyage Rainbow Bridge

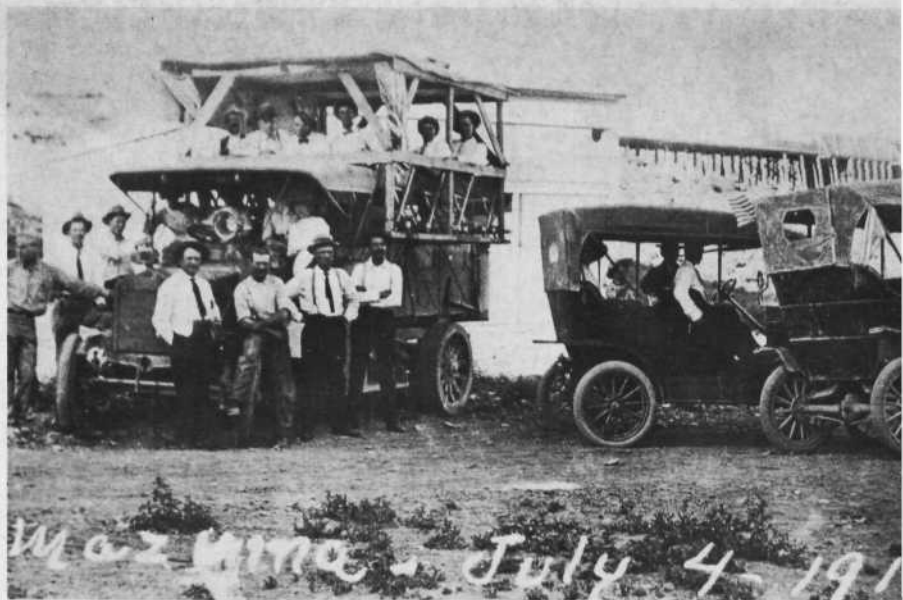
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GETTING READY FOR THE MAZUMA VS. LOVELOCK BASEBALL GAME, JULY 4, 1911. DOUBLE-DECK TRUCK CARRIED DIGNITARIES.

racers and horse races enlivened the streets. In later days there would be bicycle racing or a baseball game, as popularity of the "wheel" and organized sport increased. After the turn of the century a town often sought to hold a nationally-noticed prizefight on the Fourth. In still later years it became almost traditional to stage a rodeo.

The small town of Farrel in 1907 was host to the neighboring village of Vernon at an all-day stag party, featuring a baseball game, prizefight, and "refreshments tent," with the orator of the day doing double service as referee. According to Gus Keller, who was there, Farrel's party ended a touchy rivalry between the two towns; thereafter, with the memory of their joint Fourth of July uproar in mind, the men of Farrel and Vernon were good friends.

Color was highly important to any Fourth. The towns themselves were draped, wrapped, swathed and flapping with red, white and blue. Eureka spent "nearly \$900" on a flagpole in 1876; that same year Reno's stores ran out of flags by July 2. Anyone, homeowner or storekeeper, who did not have flag brackets permanently mounted on his building was considered lacking in patriotism. Wagons, carts and bicycles were gay with decorations. Even early automobiles were flag-bedecked; Mazuma didn't have many gas buggies in 1911, but everyone bristled with flags on the Fourth.

The evening's fireworks were a final flash of color and noise on the Great Day. Rockets and pinwheels, Roman candles, and set pieces of complicated lighting were standard

equipment for the show. In 1876 Virginia City went to extremes to provide a tremendous bonfire high above the town on 9000-foot Sun Mountain. For two days before the Fourth, Comstockers marvelled as eight camels borrowed from the salt-carrying trade hauled fuel for the ceremonial blaze. Each camel carried a third of a cord of wood to the mountaintop, and the resulting bonfire was a huge success.

Sometimes the Fourth was combined with some other local celebration, the completion of a railroad, for instance. At Tonopah in 1904 the Railroad Celebration on July 25 was both a delayed Fourth and a roaring welcome to the first regular train of the Tonopah Railroad Co.

A dance of some sort was nearly always the climax of the Fourth celebration. In 1873 Carson City's Elegant Baths & Hair Dressing Salon stayed open all night July 3 so that Carson's gentlemen could appear at their best. The neighboring towns of Unionville and Star City held a joint celebration in 1863 which began at Unionville the night of July 3 with a Grand Military and Civic Ball at \$8 per ticket. Although the dance lasted most of the night, Unionville's citizens were able to make the 12-mile trek to Star City the next morning for a full day of patriotic exercises and feasting which ended with another all-night ball.

Despite the general pattern of celebration and the all-out pride on all sides, some of the oldtime Fourths weren't exactly noted for decorum. There were occasions when the rowdy element got out of hand. In 1863, during the grand ball at Ophir City,

Charley Plum kissed his dancing partner "in a sportive manner" and was immediately dispatched to a better world by the girl's knife-wielding brother. In true spirit of the times, the killer seems not to have received much reprimand.

In towns with few feminine residents, celebrations were often rowdy, such as during the 48-hour Fourth festivities shared by Treasure City and Hamilton in 1869. Wrote eyewitness John McQuig: "As expected there are quite a number of fights and more drunk men I never saw." McQuig, who marched with Treasure City's Hook & Ladder Co. July 5 at Hamilton, noted then that most of the day's program took place in the basement of the Philadelphia Brewery.

Reno disgraced itself merrily in 1872, possibly because the proprietor of the Old Corner Saloon had been named President of the Day. Too many of the Old Corner's regular customers crowded into Dyer's Hall for the program, and patriotic fervor got out of hand. "It was arranged that every man who stood the drinks for the crowd should be Orator of the Day while said drinks were disposed of," said the local editor, adding "many a patriotic citizen took this opportunity to ventilate his most efflorescent vocabulary." The shouting went on all night. After Carson City's big party of 1895, Alf Doten remarked that "Sheriff Kinney had his hands full and the jail full."

As the years progressed, the mining camp's Glorious Fourth's tended to be more decorous, although the noise, the parade, the color, the feasting and games and even the oratory were downright mandatory in most towns up to 30 years ago. The oldtimers who remember "back when" may say today's festivities are pretty tame, but

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they don't say so with too much regret. The better parts of the oldtime Glorious Fourth can still be found in some parts of Nevada.

This year, plans are being made for Fourth of July festivities at Tonopah, Lovelock, Eureka, Ely and Boulder City. Less definite are plans of the last-minute sort at Austin, Carlin and Ruby Valley, although all three places have held lively ro-

deos in the past which have the peculiar charm of being local and informal.

Austin has one of the best celebrations in the state—when the town feels like putting it on. There is a parade down the main street (it matter not that the main street is U.S. 50; through traffic is re-routed along Austin's cliffhanger side streets). The night of July 3 there is a Buckaroo Dance which is quite likely to last most of the night. The July 4 rodeo, held in the area at the foot of town on the west, is one of the last really great amateur riding shows—if you can call riders who make a living on horseback "amateurs." Everyone for miles around joins in the celebration, which is unique. (Since Austin's motel and hotel facilities are limited, it is wise to make reservations in advance or prepare to camp near town. There is a state park seven miles east of town, and Kingston Canyon in the Toiyabes offers beautiful places for camping.)

Tonopah's big party is a two-day affair, with a full-fledged rodeo which draws expert performers from all over the state. Both days have a big parade—colorful horseback groups, a Queen, military marchers, floats (and dozens of antique automobiles last year)—and the morning of July 4 there is also a special parade for children with prizes for all entries.

Eureka's celebration starts with a children's parade and kids' games—everything from sack races to nickle scrambles for age groups 2 to 14. For adults there are contests—egg tossing, sack races, nail driving, even beer drinking. It is all happily informal, with free ice cream for the youngsters.

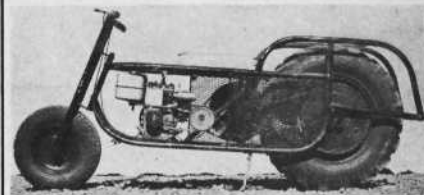
Lovelock schedules its annual trapshoot for the Fourth, plus a baseball game, parade, games for youngsters at the municipal park and municipal pool, and a grand public barbecue in the pretty tree-shaded park. After dark the Volunteer Fire Department supervises a fireworks show, and there is always a big dance at Arobio Hall. There is plenty to do and watch, and all of it festive and enjoyable.

Ely begins things with a parade, followed by a rodeo, street events, vaudeville acts and a fireworks display. Boulder City holds its annual "Damboree" on the Fourth, a town-sized party.

Las Vegas will observe the Fourth this year with a fireworks display promoted by the Las Vegas Firemen's Benefit Association at Cashman's Field. It begins at 7:30 p.m. Reno expects to have a downtown parade and probably a band concert. ///

MOTORIZED FUN

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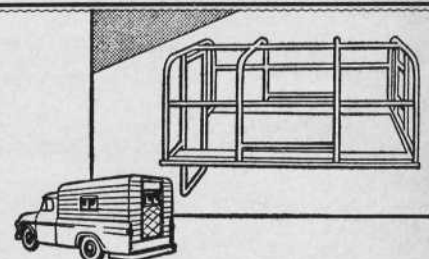
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Desert Garden Guide

— THINGS TO DO IN JULY

Lawns

Established lawns will require little or no fertilizer in July, but must be watered regularly. During the very hottest weather do not cut grass shorter than two inches. The longer length protects the roots somewhat. Watch for summer diseases and apply fungicide.

Low Desert: If a new lawn is to be planted in the fall, you will profit by getting the ground into condition now. Around new homes, the soil should be loosened to a depth of about eight inches. If necessary bring in good top soil. Rye or buckwheat can be sown to hold the soil, then turned under in August. Shallow cultivating of this soil in August will destroy many of the weeds.



Perennials

Low Desert: Water deeply, fertilize lightly, spray or dust regularly. If tuberous begonias are in pots, they should be placed where they can get some shade. Frequent daily sprinklings provide necessary humidity for tuberous begonias and mums. The latter should not be allowed to dry out. Fertilized every other week. Cuttings can be taken in July. Roses should be mulched if this has not been done before.

High Desert: Follow much the same care as for the Low Desert. Some perennials can be cut back to keep seed pods from forming and thus prolong the blooming period or encouraging a later one. Pinch back chrysanthemums.

Nevada, Utah and Northern Arizona: Iris clumps can be divided and replanted in July. Seeds of biennials and perennials can be sown now for bloom next year. Chrysanthemums can be pinched back until the middle of the month for October blooming. Cut back perennials that bloomed early. Watering is the most important garden chore this month, preferably by slow-running water. Roses can be set out in same containers they were grown in, without harm.



Trees

July is hot and trees and shrubs planted in the spring—especially evergreen shrubs—will need thorough deep watering this month. Flowering shrubs should be fertilized now. Slow growth and yellowish leaves usually indicate lack of nitrogen.

Your local nurseryman can recommend the best fertilizer.

Bougainvillea will require heavier watering than other vines or shrubs, if you really want it to have optimum bloom.

July is the best month for pruning most trees and shrubs because new shoots will have a chance to harden before the first killing frost arrives.

This is also the best time for taking cuttings of outdoor shrubs such as azaleas, barberry, bougainvillea, bottlebrush, camelias, coral plant and poinsettias. This is done by cutting a half-ripened two-to-four inch piece of the plant and placing it horizontally in a mixture of peat moss, sand and compost, covering almost completely with the mix, moistening thoroughly and then covering with a bell jar or glass. Keep warm and moist, but not wet, in shade until rooted. (Poinsettias, however, should not be kept in shade for more than a few days.) Barberry will take about six months to root. Azalea, if cut with a thin heel of the old branch, will root in three to four weeks. When cuttings are rooted, remove to larger pots gradually as they grow, and eventually to the outdoors.



Annuals

Low Desert: Annuals require much the same care during July and August. Fertilize lightly, water deeply. Keep faded flowers picked, not so much for a neater garden, but rather to encourage new bloom. Mulching all plants conserves water and protects the roots near the ground surface. If some annuals are cut back, they may produce a second blooming period later.

High Desert: Nursery grown plants can be used to fill in bare spots. Water according to needs, fertilize.



Natives

Two good natives for your consideration: Southern Fremontia, an evergreen from San Diego County and Baja California, must *not* be watered in summer—the kind of plant you want if you leave the desert in the summer! Western Redbud, native of Sierra Nevada foothills, Kern and San Diego counties, is an interesting deciduous, bushy-spreading tree which blooms in spring and has reddish-brown seed pods in the winter months. This tree must have fast draining soil and should be planted on a dry bank and watered infrequently.

The main thing to remember about planting natives is that you must duplicate as closely as possible soil and moisture conditions of the plant's natural habitat. ///

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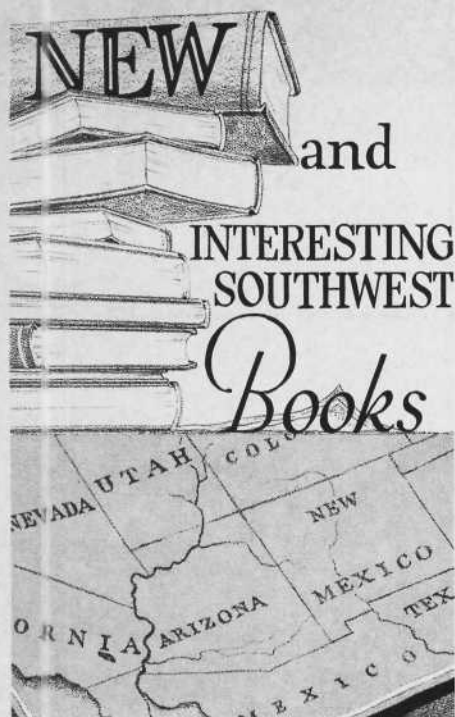
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Residents of the Palo Verde Valley and old-timers who knew the Colorado River country in the early days of this century will enjoy the rambling, informal, and delightful reminiscences of Camiel Dekens, as gathered together under a paper-cover booklet titled *RIVERMAN-DESERTMAN*. Tom Patterson, newspaperman and author, has collaborated with Dekens, who arrived in the thickets and swamps of the Palo Verde area in 1907. He was a river freighter, a mule-skinner, a ranch hand, trucker, and mechanic. He was the best type of desert pioneer, building against odds, but enjoying the odds. *RIVERMAN-DESERTMAN* has nine photographs in its 111 pages.

Earlier freighting and wagon-history than that told by Dekens is provided in a richly illustrated book by the fine artist, Nick Eggenhofer. His hard cover volume, *WAGONS, MULES AND MEN*, tells in smooth prose and excellent drawings "How the Frontier Moved West." His sketches range from pack saddles to Red River Carts. Conestoga wagons and their trappings, and Western stagecoaches and 20-mule team freighters are all included in Eggenhofer's 184-page book. He explains why the wagons that traveled the Santa Fe Trail were larger than those that went on the Oregon Trail. He explains in detail how wagon wheels are made. He judges the merits of mules and explains the

intricate dance they went through to negotiate hairpin turns on a mountain road while part of a 20 or 24-head team. If you want to know how the wheelers and leaders were hitched, why the Army mules had unorthodox eating habits, or how fast an ox team traveled (loaded or unloaded) it's all there, right in Eggenhofer's work of Americana.

For those interested in the history of Nevada, a reprint of the 1862 *DIRECTORY OF NEVADA TERRITORY*, will provide a rich pasture for much browsing. The Talisman Press has republished this century-old directory, which is limited to 750 copies. The hardcover book is a faithful copy of the original, retaining the ads, the type faces, and the listings of businesses and individuals. Examples of listings of the residents of Nevada were: "H. Luther, mason, What Cheer House" or "Richard James, printer, Territorial Enterprise" or "Henry Lux, Gem Saloon, Main near Gay." Descriptions of the mines of the Territory are included, as are County Offices, Table of Distances, County Boundaries, Prospecting Tunnels, Parry's Electric Rod, and an Abstract of Important Laws. Finally, there is a 24-page "Sketch" of the Washoe Silver Mines, written by Henry Degroot. The original directory was printed in San Francisco by the Commercial Steam Printing House of Valentine & Co., which claimed in its full page ad that it did "... every description of printing with the utmost neatness and dispatch."

Almost as far removed — in some ways — as the Nevada of a hundred years ago is the subject of a pleasant new book, *BAHIA, ENSENADA AND ITS BAY*, for the sleepy Mexican coastal village in Baja California seems to be distant in time and custom from the busy north-of-the-border cities in Alta California. Author of *BAHIA* is Thaddeus Brenton, who lived in Ensenada for several years. His understanding and tolerance of a place that seems to be determinedly different ends up as a sort of love affair. Yet, despite Brenton's affection for la senorita Ensenada, he has to admit (almost too often) that he doesn't understand her. Understand-

ing some of the passages in the book may be a challenging thing for the reader unless he has studied Spanish, for Brenton too often uses Spanish phrases or words to cap his thoughts. All his chapter titles, for instance, are in the idiom. Sometimes it takes the author a full chapter to explain the title, but perhaps that's only skillful writing, after all. The book is as frothy and fragrant as the head on a stein of *cerveza*.

—Charles E. Shelton

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MORE CLASSIFIEDS ▶

SMOKE TREE — continued from page 19

they must fear — the brittle stems break, the main branches snap.

Besides its familiar common name (which it was given because from a distance its gray form can be mistaken for rising smoke) this tree has been given numerous others, all appropriate—Corona del Cristo (Spanish: crown of thorns), Indigo Tree, Tree Pea, Thorn Tree, and Ramaceniza (Spanish: branches of ashes). *Dalea spinosa*, its scientific name, honors the English botanist Samuel Dale, and also refers to the tree's numerous sharp thorns.

Smoke Trees are difficult to grow in gardens unless the same conditions nature demands are met. Seeds scoured in sand in a tumbler such as

used by rock fanciers, or momentarily scalded or placed for a few hours in weak sulphuric acid, will often grow in pots or in the open, provided they are not too often watered. Sunshine, of course, is very essential. I have never seen young seedlings or older trees too successfully transplanted. Above all, it is to be remembered that a deep sandy soil is an absolute necessity.

All of the Smoke Tree's nearest relations belonging to the genus *Dalea* are plants of the Southwestern United States, Mexico and South America. There are more than 100 different kinds, some with white, some with yellow, but most with blue or indigo-colored flowers. Only a

few reach the stature of even large shrubs or trees; but almost all have this in common: they have gland-dotted leaves, which are fragrant when crushed, and the flowers are beautiful, singly or in masses. Dr. Lyman Benson and Robert A. Darrow, in their *Manual of Southwestern Desert Trees and Shrubs*, list 13 United States species and subspecies. Standley lists 80 species and subspecies for Mexico.

A few of the daleas are used in the making of dyes, particularly yellow, and a few are used medicinally by native peoples; otherwise they have few uses to man other than as very attractive ornamental plants. ///

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Continued from preceding page

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Desert Nightfall

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To broken lilac hills
Deepening to gray.

There is no sound to claim
This story-book hour,
Only dusk softly falling
In a grape-blue shower.

Until—a sudden breeze
Rustles through the sage,
Like an impatient hand,
And turns the page.

—Adelaide Coker

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Back Issue Date	ILLUSTRATED FEATURE ARTICLES				
	Mapped Gem-Mineral Field Trip	Mapped Ghost Town	Mapped Travel-Exploration	Desert Southwest Nature	Other Features
Jul 54	TAYLOR: "Jasper in Limestone Gulch" (Ariz.)			JAEGER: "Clark Mountain Wonderland"	HENDERSON: "We Build for Summer Comfort"
Dec 55	VARGAS: "Saddle Mountain Chalcedony" (Ariz.)		MURBARGER: "Ichthyosaur State Park" (Nev.)	SMITH: "Valiant is the Ironwood"	HALLIDAY: "Exploring the Winding Stair Cave" (Calif.)
Oct 57	DuSHANE: "Marine Treasures from Punta Penasco" (Sonora)	MURBARGER: "Manvel, Vanderbilt" (Calif.)	HENDERSON: "Land of Standing Rocks" (Utah)	JAEGER: "Insects that Sing in Summer Heat"	LeVINESS: "Taos Artist Arthur Merrill"
Feb 58	CONROTTO: "Loop Trip Through the El Pasos" (Cal.)		HENDERSON: "Cataract Canyon" (Utah)	JAEGER: "Life on a Mojave Playa"	MURBARGER: "Open Pit Mines at Goldacres" (Nev.)
Sep 58	CONROTTO: "Gold Diggings in Rattlesnake Canyon" (Cal.)	HENDERSON: "Boom Days in La Paz" (Ariz.)	MURBARGER: "Sedona's Chapel of the Holy Cross" (Ariz. no map)	JAEGER: "Water for Wildlife"	BLACKFORD: "The Apaches Today"
Mar 60	MORRIS: "Apache Tears"		APPLEBY: "On the Road to Sahvaripa" (Sonora)	JAEGER: "The Miracle of Wildflowers"	MURBARGER: "Tavaputs Pack Trip" (Utah)
Apr 60	RANSOM: "Chrysocolia at the Socorro" (Ariz.)	TREGO: "Rhyolite" (Nev. no map)	JENKINS: "Dirty Sock Spa" (Calif. no map)	JAEGER: "Pinyon Trees"	HERBERT: "Yaqui Easter Rites"
Jul 60		TREGO: "Ft. Churchill" (Nev.)	WEIGHT: "Summer Visit to the Panamints" (Calif.)	JAEGER: "Naturalist Looks at Summer Heat"	Special issue on "Desert Heat"—1961 Calif. State Fair Gold Medal Winner
Aug 60		HARRINGTON: "Silver City" (Idaho)	TREGO: "People and Places Along the Humboldt" (Nev.)	CUTAK: Cactus Gardening for the Beginner	ARNOLD: "Bogus Baron of Arizona"
Oct 60		MURBARGER: "Bodie Today" (Calif.)	WEIGHT: "White Mountain Circle Tour" (Cal.-Nev.)	JAEGER: "Cottonwood Trees"	ARMER: "The Night Chant"
Nov 60	VARGAS: "Wiley Well" (Calif.)		TREGO: "The 40 Wilderness Miles to Gerlach" (Nev.)	JAEGER: "Deer on the Desert"	KELLEY: "Southwest Indian Silverwork"
Dec 60				JAEGER: "Juniper Trees"	Special Pimeria Alta Commemorative Issue
Aug 61			CONROTTO: "Power Scooters Through Hole-in-the-Rock" (Utah)	JAEGER: "The Unlovely Pocket Gopher"	KAUPER: "The Desert Mirage"
Sep 61	VARGAS: "Gem Trails in Western Arizona"		HEALD: "Salome, Arizona" (no map)	JAEGER "Desert Tea"	LINDER: "James Townsend—Mining Camp Journalist"
Oct 61	SORENSEN: "Sauceda Mountain Gem Trails" (Ariz.)		MURBARGER: "Campers Grand Tour of Mexico" (no map)	JAEGER: "Desert Woodpeckers"	HINE: "Kern Brothers and the Image of the West"
Nov 61			FORD: "Exploring Borrego's Amazing Badlands" (Calif.)	JAEGER: "Ground Squirrels"	LOWE: "What Nevada Pioneers Called Home"
Dec 61		WHITE: "Madrid, the Christmas City" (New Mex.)	WEIGHT: "To the Dale Mines" (Calif.)	JAEGER: "Desert Holly, Mistletoe"	DeGRAZIA: "The Blue Lady"

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